

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12

ARA-10 EUR-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 /097 W

-----065863 110408Z /63

O 110241Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9984

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00869

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORT, ET, SO

SUBJECT: SOMALI WITHDRAWAL

1. SOMALI PERM REP HUSSEN ASKED TO SEE AMB MCHENRY TODAY TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HORN. HUSSEN SEEMED TO BE UPSET OVER DEVELOPMENTS AND WONDERED ABOUT NEXT STEPS, PARTICULARLY ABOUT MACHINERY TO OBSERVE WITHDRAWAL AND TO ASSURE AGAINST REPRISALS AIMED AT SOMALI ETHNIC RESIDENTS OF OGADEN. HE HAD NO FAITH THAT OAU COULD OR WOULD ESTABLISH SUCH MACHINERY.

2. IN OTHER COMMENTS HUSSEN WAS BITTER AGAINST PRESS STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CARTER WHICH HE SAID PREJUDICED SOMALI CASE ON BORDER DEMARCATIONS. HE PARTICULARLY WISHED TO UNDERSCORE THAT SOMALIA HAD ONLY AGREED TO WITHDRAW ITS REGULAR FORCES (WHICH WERE SENT TO THE OGADEN A MONTH AGO IN THE FACE OF ETHIOPIAN THREATS*); SOMALIA WOULD NEVER COUNSEL THE SOMALI LIBERATION FORCES OF THE OGADEN TO LAY DOWN THEIR WEAPONS. FINALLY, HE ASKED WHAT ASSURANCES WE HAD THAT SOVIET-CUBAN TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN.

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3. AMB. MCHENRY RESPONDED THAT WE WERE ACTIVELY CONSIDERING MACHINERY TO MONITOR WITHDRAWAL AND FAIR TREATMENT OF RESIDENTS. WE ALSO SHARED HIS VIEW THAT THERE WERE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE OAU, BUT WE MIGHT HAVE TO GIVE IT A TRY BEFORE APPROACHING THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE COULD

NOT IMAGINE OBSERVATION MACHINERY IN THE MIDST OF FIGHT-
ING BY THE SO-CALLED LIBERATION FORCES. MOREOVER, NO
ONE WOULD BELIEVE THAT CONTINUED FIGHTING WAS NOT AT
SOMALI INSTIGATION. AS TO THE WITHDRAWAL, MCHENRY
ADDED THAT SOVIET-CUBA WOULD HAVE NO EXCUSE FOR CONTINUED
PRESENCE ONCE SOMALIA WITHDREW, NOTING HOWEVER, THAT
CONTINUED FIGHTING BY SO-CALLED LIBERATION FORCES COULD
PROVIDE OUTSIDERS AN EXCUSE TO STAY. SOMALIA WAS AWARE
THAT WE COULD NOT FORCE THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS OUT OF
ETHIOPIA ANY MORE THAN WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO FORCE THE
SOVIETS OUT OF SOMALIA.

4. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT HUSSEN WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS
ALTHOUGH HE SOUGHT OUT AMB. MCHENRY. HE SEEMED TO WANT
TO BLOW OFF STEAM. YOUNG

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